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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/665,880	09/19/2003	Alexander Gidon	CAD 362	6774
22862	7590	04/17/2009	EXAMINER	
GLENN PATENT GROUP 3475 EDISON WAY, SUITE L MENLO PARK, CA 94025			DINH, PAUL	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER			
2825				
MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE			
04/17/2009				PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/665,880	Applicant(s) GIDON ET AL.
	Examiner Paul Dinh	Art Unit 2825

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 February 2009.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 4,5,7-12 and 19-25 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 20-25 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 4,5,7-12 and 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 24 February 2009 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This is a response to the papers filed on 2/24/09.

Claims 4-5, 7-12, and 19-25 are pending.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Claim Objections

Claims 4, 10, 11 and 20 are objected to because the claimed invention process is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 4, 10, 11 and 20 are non-statutory because a § 101 process claim must (1) be tied to another statutory class (a particular machine or apparatus) or (2) transform underlying subject matter (such as an article or materials) to a different state or thing; see In Re Bilski, 545 F.3d 943, 88 USPQ2d 1385 (Fed. Cir. 2008). If neither of these requirements are met by the claim, the method is not a patent eligible process under § 101.

A § 101 process claim that would not qualify as a statutory process would be a claim that recites purely mental step(s) that can be performed manually or merely manipulating an abstract idea without the use of a specific structure. Thus, to qualify as a § 101 statutory process, the claimed step(s) must explicitly recite the other statutory class, i.e., the computer, the thing, to which it is tied, for example by identifying the computer/CAD system/EDA system that accomplishes the step(s) and providing transformation underlying subject matter to a different state or thing to provide meaningful, reasonable limits and a practical application.

Claims 4, 10, 11 and 20 recite a series of process steps for generating timing constraints but the steps neither explicitly recite a specific structure/machine that implement the claimed steps nor identify transformation of underlying subject matter to a different state or thing. Thus, the subject matter of claims 4, 10, 11 and 20 are non-statutory and not patent eligible.

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In order to comply with the 35 USC § 101 statutory requirement, a limitation, i.e., "by using a computer" must be inserted in one of the claimed steps of each claim. This would be a tie and would overcome the 35 USC § 101 non-statutory issue.

Conclusion

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter

Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Paul Dinh whose telephone number is 571-272-1890. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Chiang can be reached on 571-272-7483. The fax number for the organization handling this application is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Paul Dinh/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2825